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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/806,718	03/23/2004	Michael Joist	1689.007US1	2652
21186	7590	07/11/2005	EXAMINER	
SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A. P.O. BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0938			HARVEY, JAMES R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 07/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/806,718

Applicant(s)

JOIST, MICHAEL

Examiner

James R. Harvey

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4-11-05 (election).
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 5 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7 and 8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9-30-04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

***DETAILED ACTION***

***Election/Restrictions***

- Applicant's election without traverse of Species 1 ( figures 1a-1d and 3-7 ) in papers dated 4-11-05 is acknowledged. Claim(s) 5 is withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected Species 2.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

- The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

\*\* Claim(s) 1-4, 6 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ulrich (6220879).

-- In reference to Claim(s) 1, Ulrich shows (cover sheet)

a circuit board 39;

a switch 11 for active-passive switching of the plug-in module; and

a swivel-mounted lever/pull handle 6 with a gripper arm 5 located in a frontal area 7 of the plug-in module; wherein the gripper arm 5 of the lever/pull handle 6 carries a rotatably connected control lever 17 with a stepping pawl 23 to operate the switch 11 when the plug-in module is completely inserted.

Art Unit: 2833

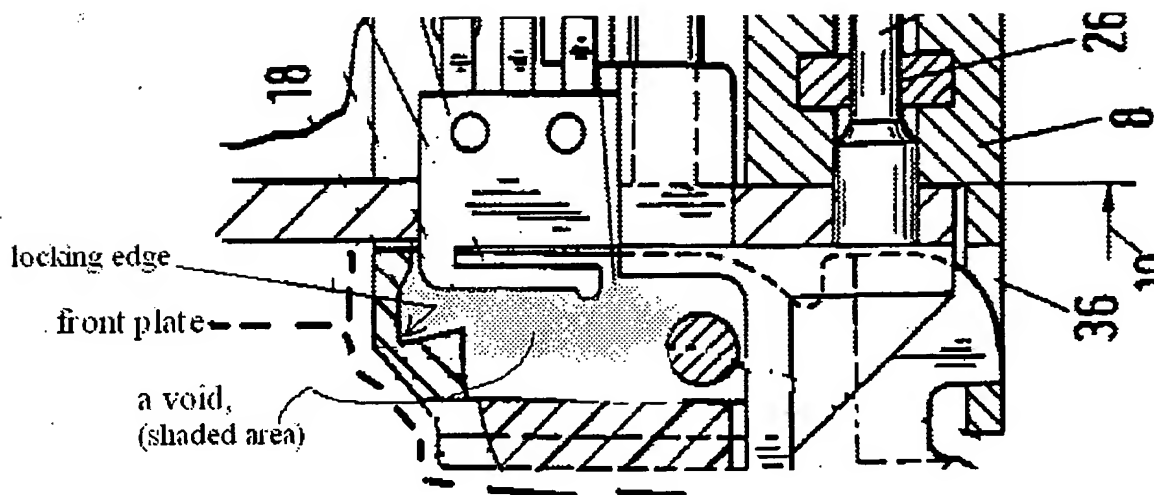
-- In reference to Claim(s) 2, Ulrich shows (cover sheet) the stepping pawl 23 of the control lever 17 has a locking nose 19 that can be locked behind a locking edge (see examiner's figure) in the front area 7 of the plug-in module 2.

-- In reference to Claim(s) 3, Ulrich shows (cover sheet) a front plate (see examiner's figure) with a void, which forms the locking edge 18 and through which the stepping pawl 23 reaches.

-- In reference to Claim(s) 4, Ulrich shows (cover sheet) the stepping pawl 23 has a switching area (to the right of numeral 23; figure 3 ) at its free end that effects the switch 11.

-- In reference to Claim(s) 6, Ulrich shows (cover sheet) the switch 11 is designed as an electrical switch 11.

-- In reference to Claim(s) 9, Ulrich shows ( figure 3) a spring tongue 19 is coupled to the control lever 17 and the swivel-mounted lever/pull handle 6 has a groove (near locking edge; see examiner's figure) into which the spring tongue 19 grips.



Art Unit: 2833

\*\* Claim(s) 1, 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Han et al. (5989043).

-- In reference to Claim(s) 1, Ulrich shows (cover sheet)

a circuit board 123;

a switch 121 for active-passive switching of the plug-in module; and

a swivel-mounted lever/pull handle 150 with a gripper arm 140 ( 140 is seen to be an arm that grips panel 100 ) located in a frontal area of the plug-in module 100; wherein the gripper arm 140 of the lever/pull handle 150 carries a rotatably connected control lever 170 with a stepping pawl 174 to operate the switch 121 when the plug-in module is completely inserted.

-- In reference to Claim(s) 4, Han shows (cover sheet) the stepping pawl 174 has a switching area (the nesting area; figure 7b ) at its free end that effects the switch 121.

-- In reference to Claim(s) 6, Han shows (cover sheet) the switch 121 is designed as an electrical switch.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

- Claim(s) 7 and 8 have allowable subject matter.
- Claim(s) 7 and 8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Art Unit: 2833

- The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art does not show the unique structure of the control lever <sup>having</sup> ~~has~~ an operating arm that is U-shaped in cross-section, between whose U-legs the gripping arm of the swivel-mounted lever/pull handle can be swiveled. This structure, in combination with all the other elements of the claim is not seen to be anticipated by the prior art and the examiner knows of no permissible motivation to combine the prior art such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made.
- If the application becomes allowable, any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowable Subject Matter".

### *Conclusion*

- The prior art listed on PTO form 892 that is made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure because it shows the state of the art with respect to applicant's claimed invention.
- Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James R. Harvey whose telephone number is 571-272-2007. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 A.M. To 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571-272-2800 extension 33.

Art Unit: 2833

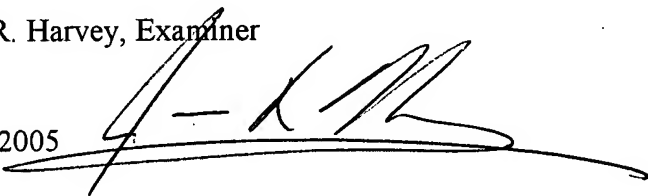
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2800.

- Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

James R. Harvey, Examiner

jrh

July 6, 2005

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'JRH', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.